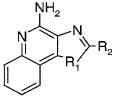
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of treating dermal lesions caused by envenomation comprising applying a therapeutically effective amount of an immune response modifier compound selected from the group consisting of imidazoquinoline amines, imidazopyridine amines, 6,7-fused cycloalkylimidazopyridine amines, imidazonaphthyridine amines, tetrahydroimidazonaphthyridine amines, oxazolopyridine amines, oxazoloquinoline amines, thiazolopyridine amines, thiazoloquinoline amines and 1,2-bridged imidazoquinoline amines to the site of the lesion.

2. The method of Claim 1 wherein the immune response modifier compound is a compound of Formula I



I

wherein

R_1 is selected from the group consisting of S and NR_3,

R_2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, straight and branched chain alkyl containing one to six carbon atoms, and alkoxyalkyl wherein the alkoxy moiety contains one to four carbon atoms and the alkyl moiety contains one to four carbon atoms; and

R_3 is selected from the group consisting of straight and branched chain alkyl containing one to six carbon atoms and straight or branched chain hydroxy alkyl containing one to six carbon atoms; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

3. The method of Claim 2 wherein R_1 is NR_3.

4. The method of Claim 2 wherein R_1 is S.

5. The method of Claim 2 wherein R_2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, and ethoxymethyl.

6. The method of Claim 2 wherein R_3 is selected from the group consisting of 2-methylpropyl and 2-hydroxy-2-methylpropyl.

7. The method of Claim 2 wherein the IRM compound is selected from the group consisting of 4-amino-2-ethoxymethyl-α,α-dimethyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinoline-1-ethanol, 1-(2-methylpropyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-4-amine, 2-methylthiazolo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-4-amine, 2-ethylthiazolo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-4-amine, 2-propylthiazolo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-4-amine and 2-butylthiazolo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-4-amine.

8. The method of Claim 1 wherein the immune response modifier compound is applied via a cream or a gel.

9. The method of Claim 1 wherein the source of the envenomation is an arthopod.

10. The method Claim 9 wherein the arthopod is a spider.

11. The method of Claim 9 wherein the arthodpod is an insect of the order Hymenoptera.

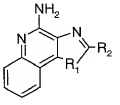
12. The method of Claim 1 wherein the source of envenomation is a marine animal.

13. The method of Claim 12 wherein the marine animal is a jellyfish.

14. A method of preventing dermonecrosis caused by envenomation comprising applying a therapeutically effective amount of an immune response modifier compound selected from the group consisting of imidazoquinoline amines, imidazopyridine amines, 6,7-fused cycloalkylimidazopyridine amines, imidazonaphthyridine amines, tetrahydroimidazonaphthyridine amines, oxazolopyridine amines, oxazoloquinoline

amines, thiazolopyridine amines, thiazoloquinoline amines and 1,2-bridged imidazoquinoline amines to the site of the envenomation.

15. The method of Claim 14 wherein the immune response modifier compound is a compound of Formula I



I

wherein

R_1 is selected from the group consisting of S and NR_3,

R_2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, straight and branched chain alkyl containing one to six carbon atoms, and alkoxyalkyl wherein the alkoxy moiety contains one to four carbon atoms and the alkyl moiety contains one to four carbon atoms; and

R_3 is selected from the group consisting of straight and branched chain alkyl containing one to six carbon atoms and straight or branched chain hydroxy alkyl containing one to six carbon atoms; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

16. The method of Claim 15 wherein R_1 is NR_3.

17. The method of Claim 15 wherein R_1 is S.

18. The method of Claim 15 wherein R_2 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, and ethoxymethyl.

19. The method of Claim 15 wherein R_3 is selected from the group consisting of 2-methylpropyl and 2-hydroxy-2-methylpropyl.

20. The method of Claim 15 wherein the IRM compound is selected from the group consisting of 4-amino-2-ethoxymethyl-α,α-dimethyl-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinoline-1-

ethanol, 1-(2-methylpropyl)-1*H*-imidazo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-4-amine, 2-methylthiazolo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-4-amine, 2-ethylthiazolo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-4-amine, 2-propylthiazolo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-4-amine and 2-butylthiazolo[4,5-*c*]quinolin-4-amine.

21. The method of Claim 14 wherein the immune response modifier compound is applied via a cream or a gel.

22. The method of Claim 14 wherein the source of the envenomation is an arthopod.

23. The method Claim 22 wherein the arthopod is a spider.

24. The method of Claim 22 wherein the arthodpod is an insect of the order Hymenoptera.

25. The method of Claim 14 wherein the source of envenomation is a marine animal.

26. The method of Claim 25 wherein the marine animal is a jellyfish.